

Sensor Technology for Biomedical Applications

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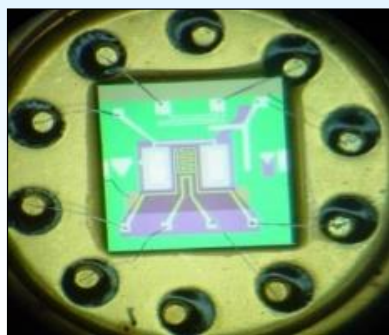
U. of Queensland – TAMU – AFRL/AFOSR Meeting
Texas A&M University
College Station, TX, 77843-3120

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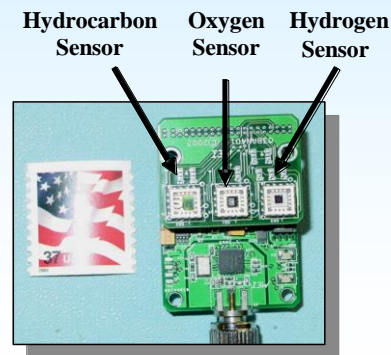
Chemical Gas Species Sensors

Smart, Small, Rugged, and Adaptable

Emissions, fire and environmental, human health monitoring, and leak detection



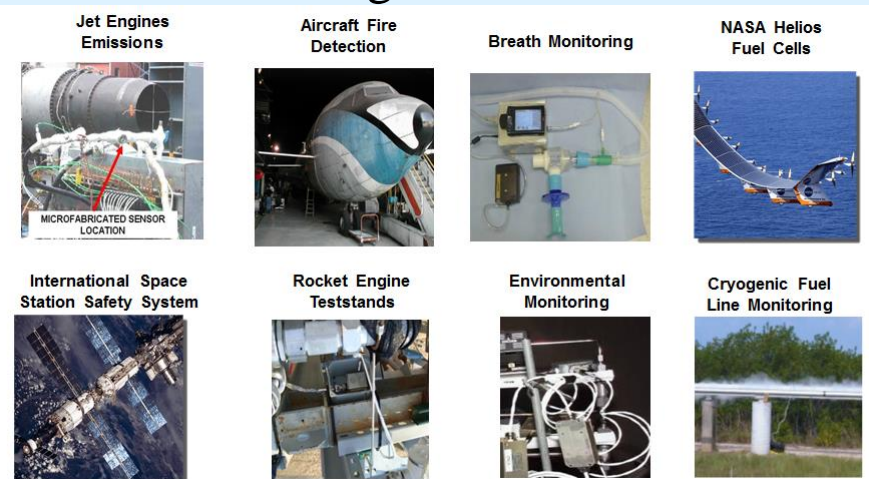
Hydrogen Sensor



Wireless Smart Sensor System

Description of Technology

- Many aerospace sensors are simple single parameter measurement systems limiting adaptability/ data quality.
- This work provides adaptable Smart Sensor Systems (with microprocessor) and multiparameter detection, e.g., three sensors each providing unique data.
- Enables easy integration into different application environments without the need for mandatory changes in power and communication infrastructure.
- Multiple sensors available depending on application need: hydrogen, oxygen, hydrocarbons, nitrogen oxides, carbon dioxide, carbon monoxide, and others.



Applications

- Basic Approach: Building from a core set of smart microsensor technologies, sensor(s) and hardware configuration can be modified to meet the needs of specific applications.
- Health monitoring through selective detection of chemical species in the breath.
- Environmental and safety monitoring to detect levels of oxygen, carbon monoxide, and carbon dioxide.
- Leak detection measuring both and oxygen levels to determine hazardous conditions.
- Toxic gas or fuel monitoring.

Micro-Fabricated Gas Sensors for Fire Detection and Environmental Monitoring

- Enhanced Environmental/Hazard Monitoring With Multiparameter Approach
- Demonstrated Reduction Of Fire False Alarms In Aircraft Cargo Bay With Improved Understanding Of The Environment
 - FAA Cargo Bay Simulation Testing: *No False Alarms/Consistent Detection Of Fires*
- Environmental Monitoring And Fire Detection; Dual Use System Targeting Key Species Of Interest To Human Health In Multiple Configurations
- First Responder Applications On-going: Portable Monitor For Exposure To Hazardous Species And Improved Situational Awareness



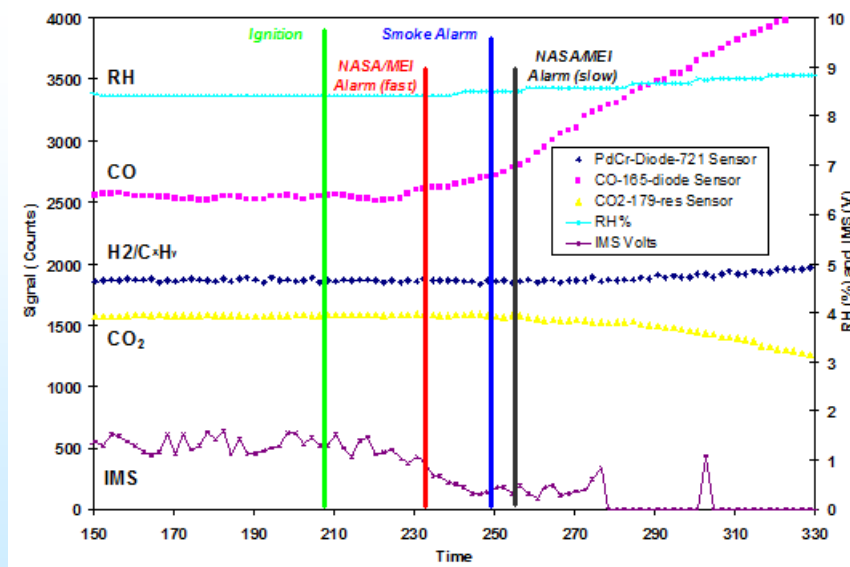
**SMART SPACE FIRE
DETECTION SYSTEM**



HAND HELD UNIT



WIRELESS MODULE



**AIRCRAFT
CARGO BAY
FIRE
DETECTION**

Smart Sensor Systems For Human Health Breath Monitoring Applications

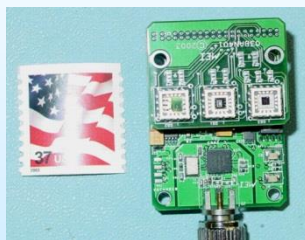
Approach: Use Array of Micro Sensors Combined with Smart Hardware to Monitor Breath For Exercise And Health

- Biomarkers For The Diagnosis Of Disease Are Present In The Breath
 - Correlation Between Chemical Species in Breath and Range of Health Conditions
- Example Project: State Of Ohio Third Frontier Program to Produce Breath Monitoring Technology For Asthma Detection

Selected chemical species in human breath relevant to physiology/disease

Compound	Potential source	Implications for disease
Acetone	Acetyl-CoA metabolism	Diabetes mellitus
Acrylonitrile	Exogenous/tobacco smoke	Smoke exposure
Benzene	Exogenous/tobacco smoke/automobile exhaust	Lung and breast cancer/smoke exposure
Carbon Monoxide	Lung inflammation, hemolysis, smoke exposure	Asthma, hemolytic anemia, various exposures
Isoprene	Cholesterol synthesis	Cardiovascular disease
Methane	Bacterial metabolism	Carbohydrate malabsorption
Nitric oxide	Airway inflammation	Asthma/allergy/PH
pH	Gastric acid reflux	GERD/peptic ulcer disease

- ❑ NASA and Collaborators: World Leaders in Chemical Microsensor Technology
- ❑ Cleveland Clinic Foundation: World Leader In Exercise/Breath Monitoring Research
- ❑ Target Home Use as Well as Clinical Applications with a Hand-Held Unit
- ❑ NASA Role: Selective gas sensor miniaturization



“Lick and Stick” Sensor System



Example Breath Sensor System

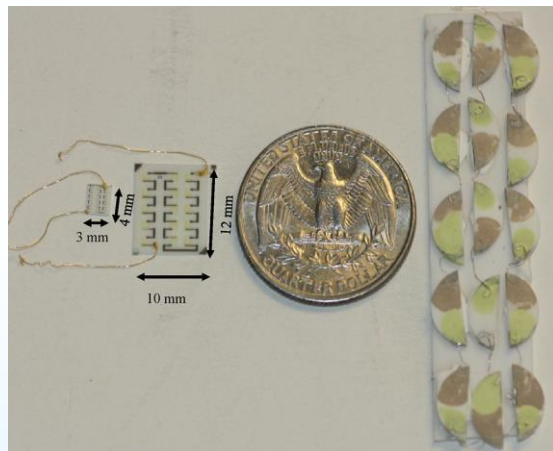


International Breath Analysis Summit

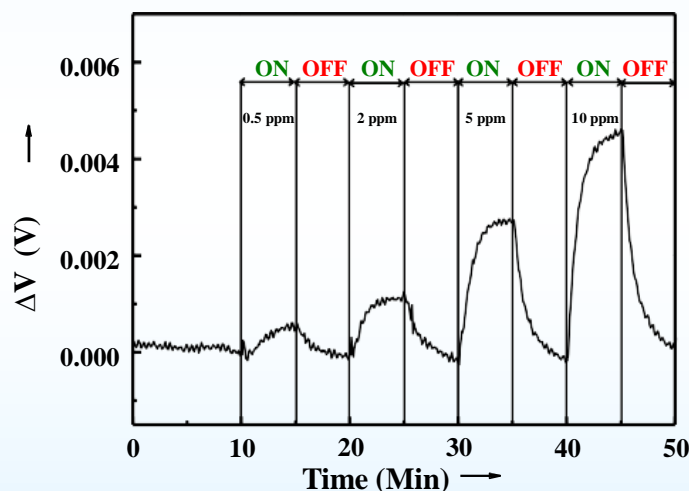
EXHALED NITRIC OXIDE DETECTION USING ELECTROCHEMICAL SENSOR: EXAMPLE OF ACTIVITIES

- Sensor Miniaturization Using Silicon Processing Techniques Based on Macro Sensor Approach
- Electrochemical Cells In Series To Reach High Levels Of Sensitivity (500 ppb) With More Than An Order Of Magnitude Size Reduction
- Fundamental Understanding Of Sensing Mechanism Needed In Order To Implement Miniaturization With High Sensitivity

Sensors and Actuators B 204 (2014) 183–189



Miniaturization Activity (right to left): Hand fabricated sensor (baseline), shadow mask sensor, and photoresist processed sensor



Sensor response of photoresist version sensor with 15 sensor arrays for 0.5–10 ppm nitric oxide in 20% O₂ with 200 cm³/min total flow rate at 550°C.

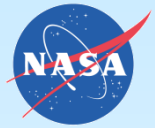
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- Core Smart Sensor System Technology and Miniaturization Approach Adaptable To A Range Of Applications
 - Correlation Between Chemical Species And Human Health/Environmental Factors



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